

**Lake Carmel Park District Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes April 6, 2021
Lake Carmel Community Center
10 Huguenot Rd, Lake Carmel**

Salute to the Flag

Roll Call

Present:

Chairman Walter Recher
Vice Chair Dale Cusack
Joe Fleischman
Jerri Jacobs
Pat Madigan
Robert Ulich
Cathy Vargas

Town Board Liaisons:

Councilman Chris Ruthven,
Councilwoman Jaime McGlasson

Absent:

Madeline Perez

Items:

- Request made to liaisons to have town code updates ready for the May meeting.
- Insite Engineering, per liaisons, has not submitted a study and proposal for bridge and dam renovation. Liaisons shared that Insite has been using another firm to handle contracts. Questions arose regarding steps needed to reach different engineering firms and what flexibility does the own Bboard have in selection? Mention was made of the Town of Pawling receiving a DEC grant. Liaisons stated they would start the process.
- Status of lifeguard staffing for beaches 2, 3, 4 & 7 and concern that we hire, if possible, sufficient lifeguards but then the beaches cannot open. Interest expressed to have Ann attend a LCPDAB Workshop to have constructive conversation regarding staffing, outreach etc. Councilman Ruthven shared pay scale at the county park and that Lake Carmel wage is competitive. Board members agreed that we would be willing to increase lifeguard salaries if that would make a difference in applications.
- Lake Carmel Fireworks will take place June 26th or July 7th per Councilwoman McGlasson.
- The Canada geese population was reviewed stressing the health and beach impact on residents. Wally Recher read various recommendations that have been suggested. With 100% support of the LCPDAB the results of a survey of residents showed a vote of 35 to 13 to initiate culling of the geese. Other remedies were reviewed and acknowledged that they were not successful.
- Trees for Tribes project is progressing with 35 trees scheduled for planting May 25th. Trees were selected by Bruce Barber. Liaisons stated that these are more substantial, mature trees than were planted previously. Additional tree work will see 31 dead Ash trees come down.

- Councilman Ruthven stated that while it is too late to deal with improving the bulkheads for beaches 2, 4, & 7, he suggested that many 'rainy day' projects could be addressed. Point was made that some of the bigger projects could be contracted out. Both liaisons agreed to move that idea forward.
- Mention was made how appreciative the residents are with seeing so much being accomplished but it was stressed that much still needed to be done.
- Updates on the Limni Restaurant issues brought information that the owners have obtained insurance to provide coverage for their use of LAPD property, which will 'Hold Harmless' Lake Carmel and its residents. The next step is to establish a fair value for LIMNI's use of parking on Lake Carmel property. Councilwoman McGlasson reminded everyone that the owners were given permission to use the parking area but they were unaware that there is a process to follow. Residents in attendance requested history of the restaurant's building expansion.
- Liaisons were asked for information on previously requested improvements: Remove beach 6 chain gate and signboard; walking path plans; renovate benches, lights at the basketball court.
- Installation of Porta-Johns April through November was requested previously and will be considered for a pilot program. Conversation among residents expressed concern about vandalizing property.
- Renovation of walking path continues with thoughts of hiring an outside contractor and asking Highway Superintendent Ritchie Othmer for his input. Councilman Ruthven said he would approach Ritchie for discussion.
- Status requested regarding renovation of benches, installation of new ones at private beach and basketball court and lights on basketball court. Looking to have that information at the next meeting.
- The prospect of hiring a lake manager was mentioned again and the idea of having a lake scientist, not a limnologist, come to Lake Carmel was brought up. Concern about the number of snails on the beaches last year and what can be done is an issue of concern. Information shared about the organization PRISM that they have done work before on LC and plan to return in June.
- Points were made that there was anti-Trump graffiti on Beach 3 and that people are parking right under the no-parking signs on the causeway of Terry Hill Road.

Motion to adjourn made by Joe Fleischman; seconded by Cathy Vargas.